

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 24-25 and 31-35, amend Claims 18-23, 26, and 28-30, and add Claims 36-42, as set forth in the following listing of claims, which will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A method for killing organisms and removing of toxic substances from an enclosure, which comprises the steps of:

~~preparing an enclosure having an interior and an exterior for exposure to a high temperature gas by removing or protecting all heat sensitive items;~~

providing at least one ingress duct communicating with said interior of said enclosure;

heating an environmentally acceptable gas to a temperature lethal to predetermined organisms;

directing said heated gas into said enclosure through said at least one ingress duct for a time sufficient to raise the temperature of said enclosure to said lethal temperature; and

extracting said heated gas and dead organisms suspended therein from said enclosure by venting said heated gas during at least a substantial portion of said directing step.

19. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 18, ~~further including the step of including wherein said extracting step further includes passing said heated gas through~~ at least one egress duct, ~~communicating between said interior and said exterior of said enclosure, wherein to extract said heated gas is extracted through said at least one egress duct.~~

20. (Currently amended) A method for sanitizing an enclosed structure having an exterior and an interior, comprising the steps of:

~~preparing said enclosed structure for exposure to a high temperature gas by removing or protecting all heat sensitive items;~~

disposing a plurality of temperature-indicating probes at predetermined locations within said enclosed structure;

heating a gas to a predetermined temperature;

directing said heated gas into within said enclosed structure so as to maintain a flow of said heated gas within said enclosed structure in order to raise the temperature within said enclosed structure to said predetermined temperature;

monitoring the temperature within said enclosure ~~detected from using~~ said probes ~~in real time to ensure that~~ during at least a substantial portion of said directing step, to determine when all portions of said enclosed structure reach said ~~predetermined~~ a sufficiently high temperature for sanitizing said enclosed structure; and

venting said heated gas from said enclosed structure during at least a substantial portion of said directing step, thereby extracting heat-killed organisms suspended in said heated gas.

21. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said ~~predetermined~~ sufficiently high temperature is at least about 120°F.

22. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 20, further ~~including comprising the step of~~ connecting said temperature-indicating probes to a console disposed outside said enclosed structure.

23. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 20, ~~further including the step of wherein said directing step further comprises~~ killing certain organisms within said enclosed structure ~~as a result of raising the temperature by heating to said predetermined sufficiently high temperature,~~ said certain organisms including at least one of fungi; toxic molds, including aspergillus oryzae, aspergillus terreus, aspergillus versicolor, cladosporium herbarum, stachybotrys chartarum, penicillium aurantiogriseum, penicillium chrisogenum, penicillium glabrum, and fusarium oxysporum; bacteria; and insects.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) A method for exterminating toxic organisms in a structure, said toxic organisms ~~consisting of~~ comprising at least one of fungi; toxic molds, and bacteria, said method comprising the steps of:

~~heating a gas to a predetermined temperature;~~

~~directing said heated gas into said structure in order to raise the temperature within said~~ in an interior portion of an enclosed structure so as to heat at least said interior portion enclosed structure to said a predetermined temperature that is hot enough to kill said toxic organisms;

~~monitoring the temperature within said structure in real time to ensure that an interior temperature of said enclosed structure to determine when substantially all portions of said structure interior reach said predetermined temperature;~~

~~maintaining said predetermined temperature for a predetermined period of time;~~
and

~~venting said heated gas from said enclosed structure during at least a substantial portion of said maintaining step, to extract killed organisms from said interior portion.~~

27. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said predetermined temperature is at least about 120°F.

28. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 26, further comprising disposing a plurality of temperature-indicating probes ~~at predetermined to~~ monitor temperature at different locations within said enclosed structure.

29. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 28, further ~~including the step of~~ comprising connecting said temperature-indicating probes to a console disposed outside said enclosed structure.

30. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said toxic organisms further ~~include~~ comprise aspergillus oryzae, aspergillus terreus, aspergillus versicolor, cladosporium hergbarum, stachybotrys chartarum, penicillium aurantiogriseum, penicillium chrisogenum, penicillium glabrum, and fusarium oxysporum.

31-35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein the venting step comprises passing said heated gas through a ventilation duct.

37. (New) The method according to Claim 36, further comprising filtering said heated gas to extract killed organisms suspended therein, using a filter in fluid communication with said ventilation duct.

37. (New) The method of Claim 37, further comprising returning filtered gas to said interior portion after said filtering step.

38. (New) The method of Claim 37, further comprising applying a suction downstream of said filter.

39. (New) The method of Claim 26, wherein said heating step is performed outside said enclosed structure.

40. (New) The method of Claim 26, wherein said heating step is performed inside said enclosed structure.

41. (New) The method of Claim 26, wherein said directing step further comprises directing said heated gas into said interior portion using at least one duct.

42. (New) The method of Claim 26, wherein said maintaining step further comprises maintaining said predetermined temperature for not less than about one hour.